

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

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DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR:DENGEL:TMCNAMARA:SHC

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:AFLOYD

C:JKELLY

EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

PM/DCA:VBAKER

ACDA:THIRSCHFELD

NSC:MHIGGINS

S/S :LCJOHNSTONE

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SUBJECT:MBFR: FRG VIEWS ON VERIFICATION

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1. ON MAY 16, FRG EMBASSY COUNSELLOR SOENKSEN, READING FROM WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS, GAVE ACDA OFFICERS PRELIMINARY FRG "EVALUATION" OF US VERIFICATION CONSIDERATIONS (REFTEL A). SOENKSEN MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. THE US CONSIDERATIONS CORRESPOND IN LARGE MEASURE TO FRG VERIFICATION CONCEPTS FOR PHASE I WHICH THE FRG HAS PRESENTED TO NATO. FRG WELCOMES THE US CONSIDERATIONS.

B. IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE FRG THAT NEGOTIATED INSPECTION FOR PHASE I BE TIME-LIMITED REGARDING EXCHANGE OF OBSERVERS FOR CHECKING WITHDRAWALS. FURTHERMORE, INSPECTION POSTS SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED AT ONLY A FEW (AGREED) EXIT/ENTRY POINTS. WITHDRAWALS AS WELL AS SUBSEQUENT ENTRY AND EXIT OF US AND SOVIET FORCES WOULD BE PERMITTED ONLY VIA THESE POINTS (COMMENT: SOENKSEN DISTINGUISHED BETWEEN THE EXCHANGE OF OBSERVERS AND THE INSPECTORS AT THE EXIT/ENTRY POINTS, BUT COULD NOT ELABORATE FURTHER. END COMMENT.)

C. HOW MANY AND WHICH POINTS SHOULD BE PROPOSED ON THE WESTERN SIDE MUST BE EXAMINED AND SECURITY, POLITICAL AND MILITARY CONSIDERATIONS MUST BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. AS THE US HAS ALSO NOTED IN ITS PAPER, THE POINTS ON THE WESTERN SIDE SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO THE TERRITORY OF THE FRG.

D. CONCRETE VERIFICATION MEASURES WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BE PROPOSED WILL DEPEND ON THE MODALITIES AND SCOPE OF FORCE REDUCTIONS WHICH ARE TO BE VERIFIED. NEVERTHELESS, ONE COULD NOW SAY THAT, GIVEN THE PRESENT WESTERN PHASE I REDUCTION CONCEPT, A SYSTEM OF VERIFICATION ALONG THE LINES OF THE CONSIDERATIONS WHICH THE US HAS CONVEYED TO THE FRG WOULD VERY LIKELY BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE FRG AS AN ALLIANCE NEGOTIATING POSITION.

E. THE FRG WELCOMES CONTINUED BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON THIS MATTER WITH THE US. SHOULD THE US SIDE SO DESIRE, THE FRG WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONDUCT TALKS IN WASHINGTON AS SOON AS US CONSIDERATIONS HAVE BECOME SUFFICIENTLY CONCRETE.

F. SOENKSEN SAID HE DID NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER GERMAN COMMENT ON OUR PAPER BEFORE WE HAD REFINED
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OUR POSITION.

2. AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY, EMBASSY BONN SHOULD MEET WITH ROTH AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. WE WISH TO THANK FRG FOR THE PROMPT RESPONSE TO OUR PRESENTATION AND WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER WE CAN EXPECT FURTHER, MORE DETAILED VIEWS SOON, AS OUR OWN STUDIES ARE CONTINUING.

B. OUR UNDERSTANDING OF FRG POINT ON OBSERVERS AND INSPECTION POSTS (PARA 1B ABOVE) IS THAT OBSERVERS EXCHANGED TO CHECK ON WITHDRAWALS WOULD NOT BE SAME AS INSPECTORS LOCATED

AT INSPECTION POSTS. WOULD OBSERVERS OBSERVE WITHDRAWALS IN SOME MANNER AND LEAVE NGA AS WITHDRAWALS ARE COMPLETED? WHAT IS TIME LIMITATION THAT FRG ENVISAGES? WOULD INSPECTORS BE LIMITED TO DESIGNATED ENTRY/EXIT POINTS AND WOULD THEY REMAIN IN THE NGA IN POST-REDUCTION PERIOD FOR AN UNSPECIFIED TIME? WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS OR CLARIFICATION ROTH MAY BE ABLE TO GIVE US ON OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THIS POINT.

C. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE, "SHORTENED VERSION" OF FRG VERIFICATION STUDY WHICH ROTH MENTIONED REFTEL B. FYI: SOENKSEN TOLD US IN CONFIDENCE (HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED NOT TO REVEAL THIS TO US) THAT FRG INTENDED TO PRESENT DORNIER STUDY MENTIONED REFTEL B TO US AND TO UK PRIOR TO THE SUMMER RECESS, ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF JULY RPT JULY. END FYI.

D. FRG SUGGESTION OF VERIFICATION EXPERTS MEETING SEEMS FRUITFUL IDEA. INGERSOLL

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